mendations of BICP, as per the provisions of DPCO 1987, and after careful scrutiny in the Department. In the case of formulations out side price control as and when any unusual price increase is noticed, Government intervenes to bring it to a reasonable level. With this approach, overall availability of drugs at reasonable prices has been ensured.

(c) These questions are being examined as part of the review of the Drug Policy which is still to be finalised.

New Policy for P.D.S.

*56. SHRI N.E. BALARAM :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new policy for public Distribution System to ensure supply of essntial commodities at cheaper rates to a class of people ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a cut-off line is proposed to be drawn so as to discontinue such supplies to the 'not-so-poor' class of people ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present to discontinue supplies under the Public Distribution System (PDS) to any class of people. Under the existing scheme for special subsidy to Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) areas, the Central Government issues foodgrains (wheat and rice) at a specially subsidised price which is Rs. 500/- per tonne less than the normal issue price under PDS. This scheme has been in operation from 1985-86.

Permission to Multi-National Corporations to enter Indian market

*57. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the Multi National Corporation seeking permission to enter the Indian market indicating their names, areas of operation, collaborators etc. ; and

(b) what is the response of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) The details of approved proposals of fore-in collaboration, including the proposals envisaging direct investment by foreign companies on the form of equity in Indian companies name of foreign collaborators, item of manufacture and nature of collaborations, are published on a monthly basis by the Indian Investment Centre, New Delni, as a supplement to its Monthly Newsletter. Copies of these publications are sent regularly to the Parliament Library.

After the announcement of New Industrial Policy in July, 1991, approvals have been given by Government as well as Reserve Bank of India for a total of about 760 foreign collaborations till the end of 31st January, 1992. Of these, 260 proposals approved envisage direct investment by foreign companies of over Rs. 580 crores.

Golden handshake scheme to prune the size of bureaucracy

*58 SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA :
SHRI SYED SIBTEYRAZI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to introduce a golden

handshake scheme for its employees to reduce the size of its bureaucracy ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the steps taken so far to prune the strength of officers and staff of the various Central Ministries and Departments ; and

(d) the anticipated cut in non-plan expenditure as a result of such pruning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) No decision has been taken by the Government on the issue of 'golden handshake scheme' for its employees.

(c) and (d) In pursuance to the announcement made by the Prime Minister in the National Development Council to reduce the number of senior-level posts, the details in respect of posts at different levels existing in various Ministries/Departments of the Govt. of India have been called for in order to identify posts for abolition. No final decision has been taken so far. Thus, it is not possible to give approximate savings as a result of the review.

अमरीका की मोशन पिक्चर्स एक्सोबिटर्स एसोसिएशन के साथ किया गया समझौता

*59. **श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में अमरीका की मोशन पिक्चर्स एक्सोबिटर्स एसोसिएशन (एम. पी. ई. ए. ए.) के साथ कोई नया समझौता किया गया है;

(ख) क्या इस नए समझौते के अंतर्गत कोई रियायतें दी गई हैं और यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इन रियायतों को दिए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) यह सवाल पैदा ही नहीं होता।

*60 [*Transferred to the 9th March, 1992*]

Deal to purchase the two Russian made reactors

395. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the move of Government to purchase two Russian made VVER type reactors of 1000 MW capacity each has become uncertain due to the political developments in that country ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Govvernment to clinch the deal as per the agreement signed in 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) No firm communication regarding the project is available at present. This delay is obviously on account of political developments in the erstwhile USSR. The renewed responsibilities for supply of equipment, credit will have to be affirmed.

(b) In terms of the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) signed in November 1988 between USSR and